

CHAPTER IV.

THE SEA-COAST.

Ouse and Trent meet on nearly equal terms, and HUMBER is constituted by their united waters. Trent draws from the heart of England the drainage of 4500 square miles; Ouse collects from Yorkshire alone supplies from 4100 square miles. Ouse brings more water, because it is fed by higher mountains and more rainy countries.

Brough Ferry, the point where the Romans crossed the Humber, is by many writers vainly thought to be the *Petouaria* of Ptolemy. An imperfect inscription found here—

BREXARC

has been read *Brexarum*, as the name of the place, and *Bretonum Exarchus*, for the commander of a district in Britain.

Hessle, further down the estuary, which derives its German name from the abundance of flint-gravel (*Kiesel*), deserves the attention of geologists from the fact that a deposit of these flints lying on the chalk, and containing bones of elephant, horse, stag, &c., is *covered by the glacial drift* of boulder-clay.

KINGSTON-UPON-HULL, the great port for the Baltic and Greenland trade, derives its importance from the little river which here finds a channel through warp land to the tide, and gives some space for the crowded shipping. First appearing under the Scandinavian name of 'Wyke' (suitable to its position on the river Hull); first called 'Hull' in the days of Richard I. (1198); distinguished by this name among commercial ports in the early part of the next century (1203-5); it finally received under the smiles of Edward I., the flattering title of *Kingston-upon-Hull**.

* Notices of the early history of Hull, by Charles Frost, F.S.A.